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RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABIDJAN 000594

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TREASURY FOR DESK OFFICER DAN PETERS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/05/2017
TAGS: [ECON](#) [EFIN](#) [IV](#)
SUBJECT: COTE D'IVOIRE DEMARCHED ON NEW WORLD BANK
PRESIDENT NOMINEE

REF: A. SECSTATE 73691

[1](#)B. TREASURY DESK OFFICER-MASSINGA JUNE 1-4 UNCLASS
EMAILS

Classified By: EconChief EMassinga, reasons 1.4 (b,d)

1) (SBU) Emboff demarched Ambassador Tanoh Boutchoue, Director of the Office of International Organizations and UN Affairs, at the MFA on June 3 and briefed the interlocutor on points concerning U.S. nominee Robert Zoellick's qualifications (reftel A).

2) (C) Ambassador Boutchoue obliquely indicated that Cote d'Ivoire would be inclined to support Zoellick, given his qualifications and experience in promoting trade as an engine of growth for developing countries, particularly in Africa. The Ambassador did note, however, that his government had some misgivings about the U.S. nomination given previous incumbent's aggressive anti-corruption drive which, despite the Ambassador's acknowledgment of its merit, he said was received as somewhat "undiplomatic" by many African governments.

3) (SBU) Emboff passed request for Minister of Planning (and current chair of the African Group's Committee on the World Bank's Board) Bouabre to attend a meeting nominee Zoellick will hold in Accra on June 6th (ref B).
HOOKS